The Cheerful Letter

EVERY PLACE A CHURCH; EVERY DAY THE LORD'S DAY; ALL EVENTS BLESSINGS; ALL JOY THANKSGIVING; AND ALL NATURE AND LIFE FULL OF GOD.—*James Freeman Clarke*

VOL. XXXI JANUARY, 1923 No. 7

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SONGS FOR THE NEW YEAR

LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

THE heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge.

WHEN I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained, what is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that thou visitest him?

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet.

SUCH knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain unto it.

How precious are thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand. When I awake, I am still with thee.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me; and lead me in the way everlasting.

THE LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

Wait on the Lord. Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart.

MY help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil; he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in, from this time forth, and even forevermore.

PRAISE the Lord from the earth, fire and hail, snow and vapours, stormy wind fulfilling his word. Mountains and all hills; fruitful trees and all cedars; beasts and all cattle; creeping things and flying fowl; kings of the earth and all people; both young men and maidens, old men and children;

Let them praise the name of the Lord. For his name alone is excellent; his glory is above all the earth and heaven.

OH that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Whoso is wise and will observe these things, even they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord.

SURELY goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

TURNING OVER LEAVES

As the old year slips quietly into oblivion and the new one silently takes its place, we have gotten into the habit of looking backward over the past and forward into the future: we seek to learn where we have made mistakes in the months that have gone and try to correct them in those that are to come. We call this custom by many names, such as "Making new resolutions," "Turning over a new leaf," and so on; but by whatever name we call it the principle is the same, namely, what the business man knows as "taking account of stock."

In every business house the latter part of the month of December in each year is utilized in making an inventory of the goods that remain on hand, in order that an annual trial-balance may be struck, that the owner or proprietor of the enterprise may know just where he stands in a financial way. He wants to learn what and how much he has made in the year that has gone; what goods have been salable and what have been on the shelves so long they have become shopworn. The latter he knows comprise the kind he should avoid in the year ahead of him, because he recognizes that his customers do not call for them.

In like manner we strike a trial-balance of our life's possessions and acquisitions: we seek to recognize those habits which we have formed, in order that we may know whether they have been profitable to us through this year of our journey of life, or whether they have hindered our greatest progress.

"I am going to turn over a new leaf," each one says to himself. This is exactly what the merchant does in his ledger. He balances each account on the old page and carries it over to a new page. In reading, when we have mastered the contents of one page we turn over and begin a new one. This one is clean and unmarked by finger-prints or the making of "dog-ears" thereon.

In the fall and early winter the trees that have been green with foliage begin to show the turning leaf. Red, brown and yellow with tints of bronze appear and, for a time, are very beautiful to behold. Then they fall and still present a beautiful appearance on the ground. Then the leaf withers and turns into what we know as leaf-mould. Later, this serves as a fertilizer and the same substance appears in the form of new leaves when gentle spring induces the trees to put on a new dress. Thus the tree provides, by what it discards, a part of the substance it requires for its growth.

New and fresh green leaves spring from old and unsightly ones. So our good deeds may be stimulated and promoted through our experiences. The mistakes of the past may be buried; and from them may come the courage and abilit to perform worthy acts and to order our live aright.

This is what the poet meant when he urge that "men may rise on stepping-stones of thei dead selves to higher things." We use our mis takes as the rounds of the ladder whereby w mount upward.

It is quite possible, however, for our mistake to keep us down. We may have hundreds o rounds of a ladder but, if they are not in thei places, they avail us nothing in climbing. Onl those rounds that are fixed firmly in their prope places enable us to reach higher altitudes.

Here is a choice thought from J. G. Holland bearing upon this very matter:

"Heaven is not reached at a single bound;
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit, round by round.

Turn over a new leaf? By all means! Bu use what has gone before in order that wha comes afterward may be an improvement ove the old order of things. Wherever you hav erred in the past, resolve to avoid such errors i the future. Make your resolutions; make man of them. That you fail to keep them all shoul not deter you in your ambition to make improv ment. The discipline will be most helpful. Th habit of trying to correct errors in our life's co duct will result finally in the fixed purpose towar an errorless life.

Aim high! Then aim higher!!—*Rev. Alc Pressley Wilson.*

SNOWFLAKES

Whenever a snowflake leaves the sky,
It turns and turns to say "Good-by!
Good-by, dear clouds, so cool and gray!"
Then lightly travels on its way.

And when a snowflake finds a tree,
"Good-day!" it says, "Good-day to thee!
Thou art so bare and lonely, dear,
I'll rest, and call my comrades here."

But when a snowflake, brave and meek,
Lights on a rosy maiden's cheek,
It starts—"How warm and soft the day!
'T is summer!" and it melts away.

—*Mary Mapes Dodge.*

"What do you think of the two candidates?" "Well, the more I think of it the more pleased am that only one of them can be elected."—*Michigan Gargoyle.*

TEACHING CHILDREN EFFICIENCY

A BUSINESS man not long ago was complaining seriously of his inefficient office help, and he remarked, "The trouble is, these folks never learned to use their heads when they were small." Now this man was very close to one hundred per cent correct in his statement. Too many children are not trained at home to make decisions, take responsibility according to their age and strength, or meet emergencies without shrinking. Let us say that Bobbie's duty is to pick up his playthings. But he picks up two or three and leaves the rest scattered about. Right there he should be taught a lesson in thoroughness. Very young children can be taught to hang up their coats and hats if the hooks are placed within their reach, and thus they first learn the lesson of order and of care of their clothes.

Let us suppose that Dorothy is asked to wipe the dishes. But she asks, "Mother, where's the towel," and calls from upstairs, "I can't find my apron"; and then she asks, "Where does this pitcher belong?" Some mothers expend as much energy getting a child ready to do a thing as they would use in doing it themselves. Let Dorothy look around until she finds the towel; there's a place for it, and if she uses her head a little she will discover both the towel and her apron without calling to mother. If the daughter is dusting, see that she does well what she attempts, and that it does not have to be gone over by mother afterwards. This is the most helpful method for mother, besides making little daughter competent—and a competent person naturally acquires poise and confidence.

"I want you to do an errand, son," says mother, and instantly she is besieged by a volley of questions—"Where's the basket?" "Where's my pocketbook?" And if this mother is not using the efficiency method, she will be tired out simply making preparation for the trip.

"O, I'd rather do things myself than get the children ready to help me," is often the excuse but that is decidedly the wrong attitude for a mother to take, if she considers both herself and the child. Let the children find out by experience where things are, and they'll soon be glad to take responsibility when they are trained to assume it. Even very young children will surprise you in making deductions and following out difficulties to a logical solution.

How often we see households where there is a panic from rising time until the last child is off to school. "Come, now, it's seven-thirty—you'll be late if you don't hurry. It's cold this morning and rainy too. Wear your mittens and rubbers, and be sure to get a handkerchief." Thus mother follows the boys and girls about, and they know she won't let them be late or forget anything; so they are utterly unconscious of any responsibility in the matter.

Now the wise mother whose household is builded on methods of efficiency will let the children be late *just once* if necessary. That will be enough. The disapproval of teacher and schoolmates will do more than months of talking and urging on mother's part, and in addition the children will have been thrown on their own responsibility. The share of the burden thus lifted from mother in no way equals the great gain made by the children in self-reliance.

A child at five is forming most of the personal habits that he will use at twenty, and just so far as mother does things for him now, so much will his efficiency be reduced in later life.

Let's make the children see that to stand up under responsibility and to cultivate resources within themselves are praiseworthy achievements. Only thus do the boy and girl grasp the idea of true service.—*Edith L. Reid in the Southern Churchman.*

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE IN JAPAN

IN the last issue of the magazine called *Popular Mechanics* there is an account of the building of a wonderful tower for use in sending and receiving radio messages. It is in the Japanese city of Tokyo. The magazine tells us:

"The tower is 672 feet in height. The lofty structure is built in the form of a chimney, having an inside diameter at the base of 55 feet, and tapering to 3 feet 6 inches at the top. The wall-thickness graduates from 33 inches at the bottom to 6 inches at the apex. A spiral steel stairway winds up through the interior, landings being located every 150 feet—these connecting with exterior balconies from which sightseers can view the surrounding country."

The material of this marvelously tall tower is concrete, reinforced with steel. Of course it is the existence of this new sort of building material that makes possible the extraordinary height.

Most of us do not get any definite idea in our minds from reading the figures "672 feet." We can make the figures alive if we compare them with something perfectly familiar in or near our own homes. Take a common foot-rule or a yardstick, and measure the height of the upright wall of the room where you sit in the evening, finding just how many feet that height is. Divide 672 by that number of feet. The result will show how many rooms like yours, piled one on the top of another, it would take, to reach as high as the new radio-tower over in Japan.

Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. PROVERBS iv, 23.

THE BOOK AND MAGAZINE CLUB

Send all offers and requests for this department to Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass. Tel. Granite 1140.

Please remember, when you see a request for a book in the Book Club, to write a card to Mrs. Nichols, asking "*Shall* I send such a book to such a person?" before sending it, else the person who requests it may receive several copies. When any one writes directly to you, asking for a book offered by you, send a card to Mrs. Nichols, saying that you *have* sent it. When you receive more requests than you can meet, send those to the Book Club to be printed here.

It will greatly aid those who are sending books, magazines, cards, and so forth, if all our correspondents who send requests for their children will take pains to mention their names and ages. Lacking such information, one is likely to make mistakes; for a boy of twelve and a girl of seven are not usually interested in the same things.

When requesting books for the first time, correspondents should always give, as reference, the name and address of their clergyman.

When correspondents move to a new address, notice should be sent either to our headquarters, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., or to those persons who have been sending books and magazines.

It is necessary that letters be written with ink.

Those who enjoy receiving books and magazines are asked to remember that they, in their turn, can give much pleasure if they will take pains to write to the persons who send such reading matter. In cases where no word of response goes back—not even to say that the books or magazines were received—senders may suppose the parcels were not welcome. Let us each do our share towards a friendly understanding.

OFFERS

The Brighton Branch offers the following. Address Miss Carrie L. Murdock, 320 Allston Street, Brookline, Mass.

Rab and His Friends. By Dr. John Brown
Mosses from an Old Manse. By Nathaniel Hawthorne
Humorous Masterpieces (selected). By Edward T. Mason
Great Authors ("Half-hour Series")
Routine and Ideals. By LeBaron Russell Briggs
Kavanagh. By H. W. Longfellow
Buddie. By Anna Chapin Ray
Helen Ford. By Horatio Alger, Jr.
Anne of Avonlea. By L. M. Montgomery
Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens. By J. M. Barrie
The Peterkin Papers. By Lucretia P. Hale
Doodles. By Emma C. Dowd
The Tale of Fatty Coon. By Arthur S. Bailey
Millicent in Dreamland. By Edna S. Brainard
The First Christmas Tree. By Henry Van Dyke
Rifted Clouds. By Bella Cook
Raffles. By E. W. Hornung
Mister 44. By E. J. Rath
The Diary of Lady Willoughby
Marie of Arcady. By F. Hewes Lancaster
The Road to Paris. By R. H. Stephens
The House of Luck. By Harris Dickson
The King's Talisman. By Sylvanus Cobb, Jr.
The Fortunes of Nigel. By Sir Walter Scott
The Soul of a Bishop. By H. G. Wells
Cleopatra. By H. Rider Haggard
The World's Work, numbers for 1922

The Cambridge Branch offers the following. Address Mrs. Henry Bowser, 36 Lancaster Street, Cambridge 40, Mass.

The Plays of Sheridan
Poems of Oliver Goldsmith
Ethics for Young People. By Rev. C. C. Everett
The Education of Man. By Froebel, also Mottoes and Commentaries on Froebel's Mother Play. (These are books on child-training.)
Discourses. By Rev. Edward H. Hall
The Education of the Human Race. By Lessing. (English translation)
Essays on Puritanism. By MacPhail
Life of Cowper. By Morley
Life of Hawthorne. By Henry James, Jr.
Cowper's "Homer's Iliad"; Southey
Industrial Studies of Europe. By Allen (school edition)
Kane's Arctic Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin (two vols.)
History of England
History of the United States
Geographies (school editions)

REQUESTS

1. I am writing a request for some old magazines after they have been read. I would especially like the *Pictorial Review*, *Modern Priscilla*, or *Delineator*. I wish to thank you for your kindness in having my last letter printed. I received several bundles of magazines from *Cheerful Letter* friends, and found one or two correspondents through the paper. They afford me great pleasure. I think your paper does wonderful

work. I am a young married woman; my husband is an ex-soldier, and we have a nine-months old son. (Mrs.) Lena T. Wood, Endicott, Va., Route 1, Box 11.

2. I wish to thank the *Cheerful Letter* friends for past kindness in sending me reading matter, and I would be so glad if somebody would send more books or magazines for my children—two boys aged sixteen and fourteen and two girls aged twelve and ten. They are all fond of reading. I would like to get the *Beacon*, or any good reading for myself, also some scraps for quilts, as I don't get out much in winter. (Mrs.) Nannie West, Vinton, Va.

3. Mrs. G. E. Hazlegrove, Paytes, Va., asks for the *Ladies' Home Journal*.

4. Mrs. Ellen Washington, Endicott, Va., will be glad of reading for herself and two little girls, eight and six years old.

5. Our public school here desires some storybooks; secondhand readers for first, second and third grade supplementary reading; Bibles and Testaments; religious books for Sunday schools; and any textbooks for the higher grades. Old papers and magazines can be used to advantage. We have seven grades in the day school, pupils ranging in age from six to eighteen. We have a good Sunday school and a church, but not a single Bible, story—or religious book. M. N. Royal, Camp Hill, Ala.

6. I hope you good *Cheerful Letter* people won't forget me at Christmas; I would be so grateful for any books or pictures for boys and girls from five to nine years old. I thank you each and all for your past kindness. (Mrs.) G. R. Cooper, Garrisonville, Stafford Co., Va.

7. Would you please send me some more reading? My boy Lewis, ten years old, is very fond of reading and would be glad of books suitable for a boy of his age—perhaps something of Cooper's or Jules Verne's—any good books or magazines. My little girl, aged four, would love picture books or cards. If it is not asking too much, I would like to have some pieces for quilts. My mother, Mrs. S. A. Pedigo, lives with me; she is seventy-six years old and cannot go out much, I should appreciate it if someone would send her reading (she is fond of the *Youth's Companion*) and quilt pieces. (Mrs.) A. P. Boyd, Vinton, Va.

8. Mrs. Mary E. Shelton, Campbell, N. C., Route 1, Box 49, asks for books and magazines (especially for the *Delineator* for 1923) and for quilt scraps.

9. It has been a long time since I heard from my *Cheerful Letter* friends—very near two years—except one. I should be very glad of some good reading matter, also quilt pieces of any kind; as winter is near they would be most acceptable. I will pass the reading on to others. (Mrs.) J. R. McLendon, Polkton, N. C.

10. I have received some papers and cards which I appreciate very much. I certainly would thank you kind people, if you would send me a Bible and some good storybooks for children. I should appreciate any kind of cards or pictures. Bessie Smith, Campbell, N. C.

11. I would appreciate any kind of reading, especially the *Cheerful Letter;* also silk or velvet patchwork pieces. I am the mother of three children—two boys and a girl. We live on rented land fifteen miles from the nearest railroad. I get mighty lonesome sometimes. I would be so glad to have some cards and pictures for the children. (Mrs.) Georgia G. Massey, Elamsville, Va.

12. Mrs. A. DeWitt, 2138 Prospect Avenue, Springfield, Mo., one of our long-time friends, asks for "One Hundred Days in Europe," "One Fair Daughter," or "John Burroughs: in Remembrance."

13. Mrs. A. A. Motley, Sandy Level, Va., is the mother of three children aged eight years, six years, and fifteen months. Her husband, a carpenter, is away working most of the time. She is lonely and asks for a good storybook, also for reading and pictures for the children.

14. Mrs. Hazel Watson, Copeland, Ark., thanks those who have remembered her in the past and will appreciate reading and quilt scraps for this winter. She also asks for a Student's Bible.

15. The *Woman's Home Companion* (beginning with June, 1922) is asked for by Mrs. H. C. Phillips, Amherst, Va., Route 2, Box 10.

16. Mrs. G. Lee Roberson, Elamsville, Va., Box 32, will be glad of reading matter and a correspondent.

17. Mrs. R. L. Porter, Bridgeboro, Ga., will appreciate books for her six-year-old boy as well as for herself. She will pass on all reading matter.

18. Mrs. Joanna Crook, Richfield, N. C., Route 2, Box 40, will be glad to receive any good reading for her husband and the children—a boy sixteen and a girl of thirteen. They live twenty

miles from town on rented land. She is grateful for all we have done for her.

19. Mrs. M. E. Brown, Sandidges, Va., will be glad of any reading, and would like to have the *Cheerful Letter*.

20. Lela Hicks, Big Spring, Tenn., Route 1, a fifteen-year-old girl, who craves an education, will appreciate good reading. She has two sisters and two brothers.

21. I want to thank the kind friends for sending me such nice papers and cards, also for the September number of the *Cheerful Letter;* I have not been a member long, but I find it is a lot of comfort for me to get mail. I would be so glad if someone would send me a large-print Bible and the *Ladies' Home Journal;* I would appreciate quilt scraps, too. Many thanks in advance. (Mrs.) Martha Threadgill, Ansonville, N. C.

22. I am sick a great deal of the time, and unable to get out of the house, and the books afford me great pleasure. I prefer standard novels, and like the bound books best. Thank you again. (Mrs.) Isabel Bailey, Toronto, Kansas.

23. Please allow me through the *Cheerful Letter* to thank the many friends for past favors. I hope to be remembered this winter. I would be grateful for any good reading—especially a family Bible. I am sixty-one years old, and my health is no better. I would like to correspond with some friend near my own age, and would appreciate some scraps for patchwork. (Mrs.) Joe Dodd, Sandidges, Va., Route 2.

24. I am the mother of three little boys, six, four, and two years old. I would appreciate good magazines, storybooks for the children, or anything for fancywork. (Mrs.) A. G. Candell, Smethport, N. C.

25. Spencer B. Murcer, East Radford, Va., Box 74, would like to receive magazines and good books. He is a highly intelligent young man, crippled by infantile paralysis, and enjoys reading.

26. Mrs. Mary Heckard, Ruby, Ark., Route 2, Box 76, asks for reading for herself, and her oldest girl, aged sixteen, pictures for four younger children, and quilt scraps.

Change of Address

Miss Pattie Ross, whose home address is Flamsville, Va., is now teaching in Sanville, Va.

Mrs. Watt Burris, from 430 Webb St., Albemarle, N. C., to 318 Third St., Albemarle.

Mrs. W. H. Latham, from Fitzgerald, Ga., to Athens, Tenn., R. 2.

Mrs. Tom Hancock, from Cheraw, S. C., to 1213 English St., Station C, High Point, N. C.

THE PARTING OF DOUGLAS AND MARMION

[*This is a part of a famous story written in verse by Sir Walter Scott. Four hundred years ago England and Scotland were not united as they are now, but were separate, enemy kingdoms. The story tells how an English peer of great importance (Lord Marmion), traveling with messages from one sovereign to the other, was entertained at the castle of a proud old Scottish nobleman (Angus, Earl Douglas). The formal courtesy of the first part of the visit changed, at the last moment, into a fierce quarrel.*

With a very few slight changes in the original wording, the scene is here put into form for reading or reciting by three persons—one, a "story-teller." Try it at home. It will be particularly fine if father or mother takes one of the parts.]

STORY-TELLER:

The train from out the castle drew,
But Marmion stopped to bid adieu.

MARMION:

Though something might in plaint be said
Of cold respect to stranger guest,
Sent hither by your King's behest,
While in Tantallon's towers I stayed,—
Part we in friendship from your land,
And, noble Earl, receive my hand.

STORY-TELLER:

But Douglas round him drew his cloak,
Folded his arms,—and thus he spoke:—

DOUGLAS:

My manors, halls and bowers shall still
Be open, at my Sovereign's will,
To each one whom he lists, howe'er
Unmeet to be the owner's peer.
My castles are my King's alone,
From turret to foundation-stone;
The hand of Douglas is his own;
And never shall in friendly grasp
The hand of such as Marmion clasp.

STORY-TELLER:

Burned Marmion's swarthy cheek like fire,
And shook his very frame for ire.

MARMION:

And this to me is said?
An' 'twere not for thy hoary beard,
Such hand as Marmion's had not spared
To cleave the Douglas head!

And first I tell thee, haughty peer,
He who does England's message here,
Although the meanest in her state,
May well, proud Angus, be thy mate!
And, Douglas, more I tell thee here,
Even in thy pitch of pride,
Here, in thy hold, thy vassals near,
I tell thee, thou'rt defied;
And, if thou said'st I am not peer
To any lord in Scotland here,
Lowland or highland, far or near,—
Lord Angus, thou hast lied!

STORY-TELLER:
On the Earl's cheek the flush of rage
O'ercame the ashen hue of age.
Fierce he broke forth:—

DOUGLAS:
And dar'st thou, then,
To beard the lion in his den—
The Douglas in his hall?
And hop'st thou hence unscathed to go?
No—by Saint Bride of Bothwell—No!
Up drawbridge, grooms! What, warder, ho!
Let the portcullis fall!

STORY-TELLER
Lord Marmion turned (well was his need),
And dashed the rowels in his steed;
Like arrow through the archway sprung,
The ponderous grate behind him rung.
To pass there was such scanty room
The bars, descending, razed his plume.
The steed along the drawbridge flies
Just as it trembles on the rise.
Not lighter does the swallow skim
Along the smooth lake's level brim.
And when Lord Marmion reached his band,
He halts, and turns with clench-ed hand,
A shout of loud defiance pours,
And shakes his gauntlet at the towers.

Teacher, to little boy: "What is your name, dear?" Little Boy: "Jule, teacher." Teacher: "Don't say 'Jule'; you should say 'Julius.'" Then to the next boy: "And what is *your* name?' Second Little Boy: "Billous, teacher."—*New Commonwealth.*

I was hurrying home up the hill when a little boy came rushing down in such haste that he ran headlong into me. He was quite breathless and flushed. "Have you seen my pa?" he managed to stammer. "I don't know your pa, little boy," said I. He looked at me in round-eyed wonder and his pink cheeks fairly stuck out "You don't know my pa?" he said incredulously. "Why, I know pa just as easy!"—*New York Evening Post.*

THE AMUSEMENT CORNER

[Address everything relating to the Amusement Corner to Mr. Henry A. Jenks, 1925 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge 40, Mass.]

I

A DIAGONAL

All are words of nine letters, and have the same initial. Written one below the other, the diagonal from upper left to lower right spells a December holiday: 1. Agreed. 2. A favorite beverage. 3. An established fact that cannot be questioned. 4. Reclaimed from a savage state. 5. Pertaining to Christ. 6. Having ability. 7. A man authorized to preach the gospel. 8. The hundredth part of a gram. 9. Devoid of color.—*American Boy.*

II

FIVE MIXED PROVERBS

There's a merrier bird will leap in the new bush before where you look away. There's the clean A broom in a hand is worth the two sweeps the more.—*Selected.*

Answers to puzzles in the December number

I. PUZZLE: 23 apples

II. OCTAGON:
A P T
A P R O N
P R A T E
T O T E D
N E D

III. A HALF SQUARE:
M E T Z
E G O
T O
Z

IV. DIAGONAL:
G E N E S E E
B R I S T O L
I C E L A N D
B I G E L O W
S A N B L A S
S U W A N E E
T R I N I T Y
Diagonal: "Greeley"

When Dewey's squadron needed coal, the Admiral purchased a large amount of it without consulting the Department. The following official correspondence is self-explanatory:—

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C.

To Dewey, Manila: Why did you buy so much coal? BRADFORD.

FLAGSHIP OLYMPIA, MANILA

To Bradford, Chief Bureau Equipment, Washington: To burn. DEWEY.

THE CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE

ITS PURPOSE

To cheer and comfort those who are ill, lonely, or discouraged, through the exchange of letters and by gifts of books and magazines.

To help those who live far from schools, or who wish to continue their studies by means of correspondence with a teacher.

To give to those living far from church some of the helps which churches give. One good sermon or similar article is printed in each number. These sermons are never doctrinal, but present only such simple religious truths and principles as are agreed on by all churches.

WHERE TO WRITE

1. *Letters paying for subscriptions to the paper*, fifty cents a year, should be sent to the Cheerful Letter Exchange, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. Checks or postal orders should be made payable to the Cheerful Letter Exchange.

2. *Letters asking for correspondents, for books, magazines, cards, etc.*, also *letters offering to give books, magazines, etc.*, should be sent to Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass.

See special suggestions directly under the heading of the "Book and Magazine Club" in this number.

3. *Letters asking for help in studying at home* should be sent to Mrs. George G. Saville, 30 Woodward Avenue, Quincy, Mass.

The Home Study Committee has on hand a variety of schoolbooks which may be used by students either at home or in the schoolroom. The aim of the teachers is to help in any study where help is needed. Often this may fit a person for a higher grade of work.

4. *Letters asking for music* and *letters offering music* should be sent to Mrs. Thomas Lacey, 35 East 30th Street, New York City, or to All Souls Church, Fourth Avenue and 20th Street, New York City.

There is more and more interest in "community" or neighborhood singing.

5. *Letters about the establishment of Circulating Libraries* should be sent to Mrs. H. A. Stevens, 76 Edgemere Road, Quincy, Mass.

A Circulating Library will be started in any small community needing one, if proper location and care can be furnished and satisfactory references can be given. One hundred and eighteen libraries are now on our lists.

6. The Secretary of the Cheerful Letter Exchange, Mrs. Francis Hastings, Kendal Green, Mass., should receive the more general correspondence from workers on the local committees, or from others interested in the organization and its methods.

Notice to those who give:—

Only books of an instructive or wholesomely amusing character should be offered. Classics, educational works, and standard novels and magazines are always acceptable.

There is a large call for scraps of calico, gingham, and percale for patchwork.

To those who receive:—

It is a rule of the Cheerful Letter Exchange that no one ask for money or for clothing in the columns of this paper. The name of any person who fails to obey this rule will be dropped from our list. Any worker receiving such a request should send the letter at once to headquarters.

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